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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, 10th February 1955.

The House met in the Assembly Chamber, Government Estate, Mount Road, at eleven of the clock, Mr. Speaker (THE HON. SRI J. SIVASHANMUGAM PILLAI) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Relief given to the refugees from West Pakistan.

* 582 *Q.*—DR. K. B. MENON : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of refugees now residing in Madras State from West Pakistan ;

(*b*) the nature of relief, if any, given to them and the number receiving such help ;

(*c*) whether their children are given any special facilities for education ;

(*d*) whether the Madras State is receiving any grant from the Union Government for refugee relief ; and

(*e*) if so, how much and how it is spent?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) 1,208.

" (*b*) This Government have given relief to displaced persons in the shape of business loans, house loans, educational loans and ration allowances. Six hundred and fifty-nine adults and two hundred and four children are receiving such help.

" (*c*) Yes.

" (*d*) & (*e*) The Government of India bear the entire expenditure incurred on educational concessions to displaced students. They also grant maintenance allowance to unattached women, old, infirm, etc.

Freeships and cash grants in schools.	Stipends in Colleges.	Loans.
(1)	(2)	(3)
RS.	RS.	RS.
22,996	23,701	1,05,938 "

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Since these refugees have language difficulties, is any special provision made for the teaching of their children in schools? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The language problem has not been a difficulty so far."

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Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Do these loans carry any interest, Sir? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I would like to have notice."

Sale of rice in open market by the producers'-cum-consumers' co-operative societies in the Malabar district.

* 583 *Q.*—Sri M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) the average weekly off-take in ration shops in Malabar before the abolition of control and the zonal system;

(*b*) the average weekly off-take now;

(*c*) the prevailing market price of foodgrains in ration shops;

(*d*) whether the producers'-*cum*-consumers' co-operative societies in Malabar made any representations to the Government to take urgent steps to help them to meet the situation arising out of decontrol; and

(*e*) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) 2,864 tons. (This is the average figure for the period from 2nd January to 10th July 1954.)

" (*b*) 507 tons. (This is the average figure for the period from 29th August to 16th October 1954.)

" (*c*) Rice, I sort, Rs. 21–12–0 and rice, II sort, Rs. 17–4–0 (per Imperial maund).

" (*d*) & (*e*) Representations have been received from a number of producers'-*cum*-consumers' co-operative societies in Malabar district requesting the Government that they might be permitted to sell the stocks of rice with them in the open market at reduced rate. As the sale of rice at reduced rate would entail heavy loss to Government, the Government could not comply with the above request. The Government have, however, taken the following steps to dispose of the stocks as quickly as possible :—

(i) Instructions have been issued to the Collector of Malabar to permit the producers'-*cum*-consumers' co-operative societies to sell raw rice in unlimited quantities and to take over the stocks from such of the retail societies, which were unwilling to continue in foodgrain business.

(ii) The Government have decided to hand over the surplus stocks of rice and paddy in the State to the Government of India and the Government of India have actually started taking over the surplus stocks from Madras City. The unwanted surplus stocks with the producers'-*cum*-consumers' co-operative societies will thus be handed over to the Government of India shortly."